



SATURDAY EVENING, DEC. 31, 1898

THE GAZETTE will close its 99th volume to-day; a long life that, for a newspaper, but, during the whole of it, save temporarily when it was seized, sacked and burnt by the federal soldiers during the war between the States, it has daily been left at the doors of all the intelligent people of the city who take any interest in Alexandria's affairs and welfare. Since the close of that war it has had a great deal to contend with in the active rivalry of both the morning and evening newspapers of Washington, and though those papers do all they can to disparage and injure Alexandria, there are some people living here, but employed there, who patronize them, either on account of their political proclivities, or because they would rather the industries of that city should prosper, than those of the older but smaller Virginia city on this side of the Potomac. But even with this heavy handicap, the Gazette daily shows its many and increasing subscribers the "very age and body of the times," and stands up as stout as heart and as firm as band as ever in defence of its city, its State and its section, and, judging from present indications, will continue to do so until the next century, as this one is now doing, shall be drawing to its close. It commences the new year with all its old and many new subscribers and with an additional number of advertisers, and it is in almost daily receipt of letters from various parts of the country endorsing its opinions on all public questions, and that, too, from many who at times have not agreed with it, but who now acknowledge that then they were wrong. All this, naturally, is very gratifying to it, the more so, as it is deserved. For generations the Gazette has been the family newspaper of all this portion of Virginia, and the descendants of the people thereof who have moved to other States have it seated to them in their new homes. They know that it has honest convictions, and has the courage to express them; that it hews to the line, irrespective of where the chips fall; that it sees the faults of its political friends and criticizes them as well as it does those of its political enemies; that its chief object is the good of its city, its State and the South, and so they rely upon it, make it their vade mecum, and as, like the brooks, it goes on forever, will continue to read and approve the daily shots it fires at folly and humbuggery, no matter from whence they fly.

THE FATES have not been very propitious to Alexandria during the year that closes to-day; neither have they been to many other more pretentious cities, but her people are by no means those without hope, and, knowing that the darkest part of the night is just before day, they will pick their flints and try it again. A little more desire to stand by and help one another, and a greater manifestation of community of interest would not harm them.

THE national negro convention that adjourned in Washington last night passed resolutions denouncing the white people of the South for refusing to recognize the transparent fallacy of negro equality, and criticizing the President for his alleged lukewarmness in the negro's cause—all of which, of course, will naturally tend to the injury of the negro and to reduce the number of his friends.

THE YEAR that expires to-day, in many, like all that have preceded it, has added proof to the sad truth that man was made to mourn and that this "Is a very good world to live in. To spend, and to lend, and to give in; But to beg or to borrow or get one's own. 'Tis the very worst world that ever was known."

FROM WASHINGTON.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]
WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.
The funeral of the late Senator Morrill, of Vermont, took place at noon to-day in the Senate chamber. At an early hour this morning the remains were taken from the family residence to the Senate chamber by a detail of Capitol police, and were placed directly in front of the desk of the presiding officer. Vice-President Hobart presided. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. Dr. Leavitt, pastor of All Souls' Unitarian church, of which Mr. Morrill was a member, and Rev. Dr. Milburn, the blind chaplain of the Senate, assisted. The remains will be taken to Montpelier, Vermont, to-morrow morning, where the interment will be. The congressional committee, members of the family and several officials of the Senate and House will comprise the party of escort. The remains were exposed to view, the lid of the casket having been removed. Palms and other plants in the greatest profusion were visible in all parts of the chamber. Chief Justice Fuller and Justices Brewer and McKenna were present, as were many Senators, Representatives and government officials, and others well known throughout the nation, among whom were ex-Senators Sherman and Henderson, and wives daughters and lady friends of Senators and Representatives occupied seats in the chamber. The congressional pallbearers were Senators Culom, Chandler, Fairbanks,

Faulkner, Morgan, Wolcott, Nelson and Mitchell, and Representatives Powers, Hitt, McCull, Catchings, Binkhead and Lewis (of Washington), all of whom were long and broad white sashes. President McKinley and his cabinet arrived last and then came in the family and relatives of the deceased and the colored family servants. When all had been seated, a quartette composed of men and women seated in the press gallery sang "Lead Kindly Light." Rev. Dr. Leavitt read from the Unitarian Church funeral ceremony, the quartette sang again and then Dr. Leavitt delivered an address of considerable length on the life and character of the deceased. The quartette next rendered "Nearer My God to Thee." Prayer was offered by Senator Chaplain Milburn, and he too in the invocation feelingly eulogized the deceased Senator. The ceremonies were concluded at 12:55 and the assemblage began to disperse. Those in the galleries arose and remained standing while the President and his cabinet withdrew.

It is stated at the War Department that Major General Ludlow is to-day swearing in 1,000 Cuban policemen at Havana. Some of these Cuban policemen were selected for the service by Gen. Green before he left Havana. The remainder were chosen by Gen. Ludlow. Ex-Superintendent of Police McCullough, of New York, is acting in an advisory capacity in the organization of the force which will be under Lieutenant Moulton. Gen. Ludlow will organize a detective force for Havana which has never before had one.

The Secretary of State has issued a proclamation expressing the disapproval of the State Department of the contract made by the Pacific Cable Company with the Hawaiian government for exclusive privilege to land cables.

The internal revenue commission cannot decide what medicines are to be taxed and what exempted under the war revenue bill.

Capt. Shoemaker, of the revenue cutter service, who was detailed by the Secretary of the Treasury to go to Porto Rico on a tour of investigation, submitted his report to-day. He recommended that two revenue vessels be ordered to the island for patrol duty. They will have to be built or bought and will cost from \$100,000 to \$170,000 each.

The New Year's holiday of all the employees of all the government departments here, as usual, commenced at noon to-day and will last until Tuesday morning.

The friends of the Arlington bridge bill have not yet abandoned all hope, and say they will make another appeal to the House commerce committee at its next meeting. Mr. Alexander Graham of Alexandria county has completed a handsome map of the proposed bridge and its approaches, which he will try to exhibit in the committee room.

Mr. Gumpers, of the federation of labor, says what the American workman fears is that taxes will be increased, the standing army increased and the cost of living increased, without a proportionate increase in the value of his toil. After thousands and thousands of our poor boys rot under the equatorial sun of these new possessions; after taxes eat up the wages of the working man and make him no better than the serfs of Europe; after the people of these new countries are given rights under the free laws here, without being fitted for civilization and help make other laws that will enslave the body of labor, perhaps those who are now shouting for "expansion" will not think that their imperialism is such a desirable thing after all.

Representative Sayres of Texas left here this morning from his State, to be inaugurated Governor thereof. Before leaving he called at the White House to bid the President good bye and was informed by him that he was perfectly satisfied with the condition of affairs, both at home and abroad. In talking to a Pennsylvania afterward, Governor Sayres said he hoped Senator Quay would be re-elected, as he was a true representative of the republican majority of his State.

Everybody here at all acquainted with Cuba and its affairs says that in all the army a more competent man could not have been selected for military governor of that island than General Brooke.

Young Mr. Reuchler of Leesburg, Virginia, now in Garfield Hospital here, is getting along very well today. His knee joint itself was not injured, though the lower end of the thigh bone was splintered by the ball.

Mr. Bailey, the democratic leader of the House, says the attacks, open or covert, made upon him by the newspapers of the South, of having been in with all the people of his State and with all good democrats everywhere.

Representative Dingley, chairman of the House ways and means committee, is seriously ill with grip at the Hamilton Hotel.

EXCITEMENT AT A FIRE.—A fire that did comparatively little damage, but which at one time seemed likely to result in the loss of human life and the destruction of property to a large amount, was discovered about 12:10 last night in the second story of 817 Fifteenth street northwest, Washington. Mrs. Mamie Y. Rixey, and Mrs. S. M. Colvin, who live in the house, rushed into the street in their night robes calling "Fire!" and in the meantime informed the little cluster of people that gathered that a woman was asleep on the third floor, above the fire. Three young men rushed up the stairs in spite of the smoke which filled the house and awoke Miss Harriet Bartlett, who occupies a suite of rooms in the rear of the third story. She was partially overcome by smoke and gas before assistance reached her. She was brought safely to the street and soon entirely recovered. It was also reported that a man was asleep in an upper story. A fireman entered the room, but found no one.

DEATH OF MRS. McKIM.—Mrs. Catherine L. McKim died yesterday morning at her residence, in Baltimore, in the eighty-eighth year of her age. She was the widow of John S. McKim. Her father was Randolph Harrison, of Clifton, Va. After her marriage she went to Baltimore, where she lived for sixty-seven years. Her ancestors had lived in Virginia since 1665. On her mother's side, she was related to the Randolph family. Her children are Rev. Dr. Randolph H. McKim, rector of the Church of Epiphany, Washington; Miss Mary R. McKim and Miss Margaret McKim.

The funeral took place this afternoon from Emanuel P. E. Church, Baltimore. A wholesale poisoning is reported from Shelby, Austin county, Tex. Frank Lomack, his wife and five children were the victims. Two are dead and it is thought that none of the others can recover. Arsenic was placed in their coffee by unknown persons.

ALEXANDRIA IN 1898.

Another year has been added to Alexandria's history and the time has again rolled around for the Gazette to give a resume of the business affairs of the city, as it has done for so many years. Its reporters have talked with merchants in every line of trade and give below a summary of what they have gleaned in respect of Alexandria's business.

It cannot be said that the "wave of prosperity" has yet reached this section, but hope is a cardinal virtue, and all hope that better days may again be in store for old "Belle Haven," which has weathered so many storms of adversity, and that she may, after all her buffeting by adverse winds, be nearing a more satisfactory epoch when the sun of prosperity will again rise and bring better days to us all.

That the year 1898 was a dull one, in the general acceptance of the term, but few will dispute. The business depression was not confined to one section of the country, but was quite general throughout the land. The Spanish "war" benefited a few rich contractors, manufacturers and corporations in the north, but in this section its effects were more injurious than beneficial, causing a stagnation in business and enforced idleness for many men. Notwithstanding this it will be surprising to many to learn that the volume of business done in the city this year exceeded that of the preceding twelve months. This is proved by the reports of the railroads centering in Alexandria and by the steamer lines touching here, which reports show an increased tonnage both in receiving and forwarding business. This, it must be admitted, applies principally to such heavy articles as lumber, coal, fertilizer, etc., but these go to make up the volume of business and on this basis is a city's trade reckoned. When it is shown that during a year more goods are received in a city and more are shipped therefrom than during the preceding year, it follows that the volume of trade increased, but whether more money was made in Alexandria this year than last is an open question.

The conditions of trade seem to be changing as the trusts get greater power. Such articles as oil, salt, etc., which formerly were big items in the wholesale merchants' sales, are now furnished direct by the trusts to the retail dealers, thus reducing the sales of the middle men. The oil trusts now have tanks in many of the small towns and the salt, sugar, coffee and other trusts are also beginning to supply retail dealers in the towns and villages direct.

Several branches of trade show a fair increase and in but few has there been a falling off, so Alexandria has reason to congratulate herself on the showing she is able to make at the close of a year of such general business depression.

The financial affairs of the city are in good condition and are well managed, while the city's credit is most excellent. During the year the corporation bonds have reached the highest point since their issue—the 3 65's selling at 92. Alexandria in several ways labors under the disadvantage of being close to the capital of the country. Individual comparisons are drawn, but this, of course, is unfair, as Washington has the wealth of a nation at its command, while Alexandria can only depend on the efforts of its own citizens. On the other hand, however, numbers of Alexandrians find employment in Washington and spend the money made there at their homes in this city.

What are most needed in this city are manufacturing or branches of business which give employment to labor. Many Alexandrians are compelled to seek employment elsewhere, while many others spend a large part of their time in enforced idleness. The natural advantages of Alexandria as a manufacturing city are generally admitted, while the railroad and shipping facilities are as good as the best. Manufacturing would not only give employment to the idle labor of the city but would attract other people here. A manufacturing community is a thrifty community, for the money paid out to employees is kept in constant circulation and all classes more or less feel the benefit.

During the year no business failures of note have been reported. This shows good and prudent management on the part of the city merchants, and is regarded by business men as the surest sign of a healthy state of affairs.

Though there has been no extensive street improvements during the year some improvements have been made and the streets are in better condition than they have been for some time. The repaving of King street with vitrified brick will be commenced early in the year, and the Lee street repaving northward from Duke has been ordered by Council.

The real estate market has been dull during the entire year. The sales have been comparatively few and prices as a rule show no improvement. Rent, too, continues low and quite a number of houses are vacant. But this state of affairs exists in most of the cities of the country and a change for the better is not soon expected, though most people think the prices are about as low now as they will be and that this is a good time to buy property as an investment.

The three Alexandria banks continue in a prosperous condition, both the deposits and the discounts showing an increase over last year. The object of management is, as far as possible, to conduct them to the mutual benefit of the stockholders, owners and the community. Their policy is to be as liberal and accommodating as possible and their patrons are given as much latitude as banking business will permit.

The building associations have not done so well this year, there being a falling off both in receipts and loans. In some instances when money accumulated and loans were not made readily non-borrowing members of the associations were required to redeem their stock. The management of the associations, however, has been excellent and they continue to be favorable, and it may be said almost indispensable institutions in Alexandria.

While there has been less building done in this city than for several years past, the lumber merchants sold more lumber, shingles, etc., than they did last year, having made sales over a much larger territory than ever before, supplying various points in Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania. Lumber is brought to this city in large quantities from North Carolina and other

What is commonly known as heart disease is frequently an aggravated form of Dyspepsia. Like all other diseases resulting from indigestion, it can be cured by Kodol Dyspepsia Cure. It digests what you eat. Edgar Warfield, Jr., corner King and Pitt streets.

southern States, and Alexandria is found to be a fine distributing point. Four large mills here convert much of this lumber into doors, sash, blinds and other building material, all of which finds a ready market.

As has been reported for several years in succession the wholesale drug business continues to increase and now the retail trade of this section and of many of the towns at a distance is supplied from this city. The Washington drug stores are supplied almost exclusively from Alexandria. A dealer reports that in the past month he has shipped goods to Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Ohio, Louisiana, and has done business also in North Carolina, frequently.

The fertilizer business shows an increase over that of last year. The two big works have been kept busy making fertilizers of unsurpassed quality and shipping them to various points throughout the South. These works have every facility for the manufacture and shipment of fertilizers, being equipped with the most modern machinery and appliances. In connection with these works is a large acid manufactory, and as the acid made on the spot is used largely in dissolving bone and phosphate rock the cost of the fertilizer is lessened and the farmer receives the benefit.

Alexandria lost most of her bituminous coal shipping trade years ago when the Alexandria canal was destroyed, but her trade in anthracite coal is increasing daily and the merchants of this city are now shipping coal over a wider territory than ever before, extending to many of the southern States.

The flour and grain trade shows a falling off both in receipts and in shipments. This is accounted for by reason of the increasing number of mills being operated all through this section of the country. The millers are raising their prices and supplying the people thereof with flour, thus affecting the city trade. During the year a well equipped flouring mill has been established in this city and its owners have already built up a fine trade which is growing daily. The flour and meal made at this mill are of the best quality.

The business of the Alexandria cracker, cake and candy manufactory continues to increase and the excellent goods turned out here find a ready market. The owners of the manufactory are always on the alert to please their customers and the result is that they are constantly putting novelties on the market.

The Alexandria brewery continues to enjoy a large and increasing trade. The several brands of beer made here all stand well in the market and their excellence is attested by the thousands who drink what has become a local and national beverage. The plant is a model one and contains the very latest appliances for brewing, etc.

The cigar manufactory has done fairly well and Alexandria-made cigars have won favor wherever sold. They are what they are represented to be—made of good material and are sold at reasonable prices.

During the year the bread baking business has materially increased as has also the number of bakeries. The difficulty in securing good cooks or of having good home-made bread has induced many families to rely almost wholly on the bakers and this has started a rivalry among the latter as to which can excel in bread making.

The wholesale grocery and provision dealers report their business as fully equal to that of last year.

The job business has increased. More people use ice now than ever before and in larger quantities. The receiving here of fruit and vegetable trains on their way from the South to the north cities consumes great quantities of ice, and is a new feature in the trade.

The china, glass and earthenware trade holds its own. Goods are imported direct to this city by one of the old Alexandria establishments and a large business is done through this entire section. During the past month a new and extensive establishment handling this line of goods has been opened in this city.

The drygoods and notion merchants report a fair business during the year, notwithstanding the tendency of some of the Alexandria ladies to make their purchases in this line in the larger cities. The Alexandria merchants keep large and varied stocks of goods and make their stores as attractive as possible.

The furniture dealers report a fair business, considering the dull times, and state that they are not only building up a good trade in the surrounding country but that they make frequent sales in Washington.

The boot and shoe trade has been fairly good. There are now two manufactory in Alexandria, that make ladies' and children's shoes, and both are doing well. The quality of the shoes made here is excellent.

The receipts of lump plaster were greater than for several years.

The trade in agricultural implements, seeds, etc., was fairly good, Alexandria continuing to supply the farmers in all this section of country.

The city this year has not been visited by any very destructive fires, such as were reported during the two preceding years, nor have storms or floods done much damage.

NOTES
During this year's session the clerk of the City School Board has issued 2,128 permits to children to attend the public schools, 682 to white boys, 622 to white girls, 367 to colored boys, and 457 to colored girls. Last year the permits issued were 2,333. The decrease was in all four divisions of the schools.

The collection of city taxes during the period in which a discount of 10 per cent. was allowed amounted to \$76,100, as against \$76,494 in 1897.

The chain gang expenses this year were \$4,750.52, last year \$1,482.75.

The cost of operating the electric lights during the year was \$5,754.88, last year \$8,351, and 1896 \$7,015. The reduction in the price of coal will account for the difference.

The number of dog licenses issued in 1896 was 1,000.

was 731, in 1897 582, this year 588. The number of unlicensed dogs increases each year. The number of licensed dogs is 42.

There are 42 insurance companies licensed to do business in the city, two of the number being local, The Alexandria and The Mount Vernon.

Alexandria has eighteen licensed physicians, four dentists and twenty-one lawyers.

The licenses collected by the Mayor since the beginning of the fiscal year, June 1, 1898, amount to \$8,706. During the same period in 1897 the amount was \$9,772. The increase was caused from fines during the year 1896 amounted to \$2,468.56; year 1897 \$1,734; this year \$2,602.45. This last amount has only been greater in any one calendar year—1894—during ex-Mayor Stenhouse's term, when it was \$12,808.20. The largest sum collected from fines during any fiscal year was in that ending May 31, 1893, which was also in Mr. Strauss's term, and amounted to \$3,601.25.

The deaths occurring in this city during the last 12 months, 1897-8, 12,832, less than in 1897, indicating that even in health Alexandria is conservative. However, there is a decrease in whites of 11 and an increase in coloreds of 3. The color and sexes are as follows: Whites—males 97, females 99; colored—males 232, females 230. The deaths during a comparison of last year's (1897) death record with the four years prior to it is found that there was a slight decrease in that year. The deaths last year (1897) were 360 or 184 out of each 1,000 of colored, and 184 out of each 1,000 of colored. The deaths during the past five years were: In 1893 white 186, colored 195; in 1894 white 202, colored 194; in 1895, white 180, colored 199; in 1896 white 207, colored 172; in 1897, white 207, colored 172. The total of 1893 making an average annual death rate of 37.63, or 23 out of each 1,000. The white annual death rate being 184 out of each 1,000, just what it was for the years 1897 and 1898. The colored annual death rate averages 30 out of each 1,000. These figures would indicate that out of each 1,000 inhabitants 3 colored persons die of 2 white persons in this city.

The Clerk of the Corporation Court during the year issued 322 licenses, 279 to white and 43 to colored persons. Last year he issued 213 to white and 130 to colored persons.

The number of deeds recorded by the Clerk of the Corporation Court during the year was 508 as against 556 last year.

In the Corporation Court there were 21 chancery suits instituted, 34 common law suits, 22 wills admitted to probate, 4 powers of attorney recorded and 39 charters amended charters granted. Last year 4 charters were granted.

In the Circuit Court for the City 3 common law and 13 chancery suits were entered, 6 charters granted and 3 wills probated.

The Clerk of the Gas Works reports that there are now 98 gas consumers—an increase of 47 from last year. The year 1900 new services were put in buildings and 25 old ones renewed. There are 22 chancery and 14 common law suits pending at the Gas Works. There are 22 chancery and 14 common law suits pending at the Gas Works.

During the year the number of persons sent to jail was 342, of whom 99 were white males and 243 colored males. Of these 227 were sent to the chain gang. Twenty-five were sent to the chain gang. The number of families was 5, of whom three were colored and 2 white. The number of prisoners last year was 561.

During the year the police made 1,412 arrests, as against 1,300 last year. The number of persons accommodated at the station house was 3,057. There were 3,091 last year.

The total amount of flour imported during the year was 24,300 barrels, as against 23,388 last year. The flour was imported in bags of various sizes, the largest being 40 lbs. The flour received now is sold without inspection.

The buildings erected during the year were fewer and the amount expended in building was less this year than last. The building erected this year were as follows: 1st ward—New buildings, 4 brick, \$4,700; 2nd ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 3rd ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 4th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 5th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 6th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 7th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 8th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 9th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 10th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 11th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 12th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 13th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 14th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 15th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 16th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 17th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 18th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 19th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 20th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 21st ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 22nd ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 23rd ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 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142nd ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 143rd ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 144th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 145th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 146th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 147th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 148th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 149th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 150th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 151st ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 152nd ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 153rd ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 154th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 155th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 156th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 157th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 158th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 159th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 160th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 161st ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 162nd ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 163rd ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 164th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 165th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 166th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 167th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 168th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 169th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 170th ward—New buildings, 3 brick, \$2,300; 171